

State Interagency Coordinating Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 22, 2009

ADSA Headquarters Building
640 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Attendance:

Members

Charles Cowan, MD, Service Provider Physician
Commander Victoria Crescenzi, MD, Military
René Denman, Parent
Steven Finch, Service Provider, School District
Kathy Fortner, Service Provider, Neurodevelopmental Center
Alan Garrels, Department of Services for the Blind
Marijean Holland, Office of Insurance Commissioner
Christine Johnson, Service Provider, Head Start
Dennis Mathews, Service Provider, Education
Maria Nardella, Department of Health
Diane Patterson, Service Provider, Public Health
Sharon Reddick, DSHS/Health and Recovery Services Administration (Medicaid)
Linda Rolfe, DDD Director, DSHS/Lead Agency
Kristine Slentz, Personnel Preparation, Higher Education
Tiffany Wheeler-Thompson, Parent
Dawn Williams, Head Start Agency
Dani Wykes, Parent

Members Unable to Attend

Jane Campbell, King County DD County Human Services
Molly Chavez, Washington Migrant Council
Representative Mary Lou Dickerson, Legislature
Melinda Dyer, OSPI/Education of Homeless Children and Youth
Bonnie Sandahl, SICC Chair
T Simmons, DSHS/Children's Administration (Foster Care)

Others Attending

Angie Ahn-Lee, Snohomish County ITEIP
Rachael Allison, Spokane Regional Health District
Rayna Austin, Lewis County Lead FRC
Leilani Dela Cruz, King County Division of Developmental Disabilities

Sheila Ammons – 619 Coordinator, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
Kerianne Christie, Washington School for the Deaf
Carol Hall, ESD 112
Nancy Hatfield, WA Sensory Disabilities Services
Debbie Jackson, Washington PAVE, Parent Participation Assistant
Cassie Johnston, Washington PAVE, Parent Participation Coordinator
Ginger Kwan, Parent
Cecile Lindquist, Public Policy Committee Co-Chair
Susan Ray, Family Involvement Coordinator, Department of Health
Jan Wrathall, King County Division of Developmental Disabilities

Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program Staff Who Participated

Sandy Loerch Morris, Program Director
Karen Walker, Assistant Program Director
Kathy Blodgett, Program Consultant
Wayne Vrona, Program Consultant
Linda Jennings, Program Support

BUSINESS MEETING

I. Introductions/Announcements:

Steve Finch graciously agreed to Chair the meeting in Bonnie Sandahl's absence. He asked the Council to make introductions. Introductions were also made of the visitors attending.

Motion: A motion was made to approve the October 22, 2008 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

Motion: A motion was made to accept the January 22, 2009 agenda. The motion was seconded and passed.

II. Department of Health (DOH) Update

Maria Nardella shared a DOH Update with the Council.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Mary Selecky was asked by the Governor to stay on as Secretary for DOH. The Governor's Budget was released in December. Specific details within the budget and what it means for DOH and the CSHCN Program are still not available. It is unknown at this point in time where reductions will be taken in state activities. Major areas for proposed budget reductions within DOH that impact young children:
 1. Vaccine Purchases
 - reduce state purchase of HPV vaccine in Year 1 of the biennium
 - eliminate state purchase of all vaccines in Year 2
 2. 5% reduction in funding for First Steps Programs

II. DOH Update

Continued

3. State funding for the Early Hearing Detection, Diagnosis and Intervention (EHDDI) Program (\$325,000); the program will still have federal grants.
- **Autism Awareness: Partnership for Change**
The Combating Autism State Demonstration grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services/Maternal Child Health Bureau has put the DOH/CSHCN Program into the national Combating Autism Act Initiative, a \$37 million proposal to address autism spectrum disorders and other disabilities. This plan brings together Combating Autism Training Programs, the Autism Intervention Research Networks Program, the Combating Autism State Demonstration and Policy Programs, and a national evaluation. Washington State is honored to have all programs operating within the state. As part of the grant activities, the first state Combating Autism Advisory Council meeting was held January 9, 2009 in Olympia. CSHCN will join with Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disorders (LEND) at the University of Washington and the Research Network at Seattle Children's and a variety of stakeholders from across the state and agencies to hold several meetings a year. These workgroup efforts will: improve autism awareness; improve methods of information sharing; support research on evidence-based interventions; impact existing benefit and care systems for children and youth with special health care needs; and work toward assuring that children and youth with autism receive early and appropriate identification, diagnosis, and intervention.
- CSHCN is pleased to have Carol Miller continue with the program as the Autism Project Coordinator. She is joined by Cathie Tedrick who will serve as the Autism Project Assistant. Both are in three year project positions through August 2011. Susan Ray was also hired in December as the program's new Family Involvement Coordinator, replacing Leslie Carroll. Susan will be the contract manager for the Parent to Parent and Fathers Network contracts and will be closely involved in both autism and epilepsy grant activities that include families and youth. CSHCN continues to have two positions vacant and frozen because of the state hiring freeze. DOH will continue to have an exemption process to justify the refilling of positions. It will be limited to positions that are essential and have adequate federal funding available.

III. State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR)

Karen Walker presented three handouts to the Council.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Thanks to everyone who gave input and provided feedback.
- ITEIP is determining if the data gathering point should be later in the year. More detail and discussion will be needed before a final determination is made.
- Future performance and compliance data will come from the Data Management System.
- Some indicators are close to being met. ITEIP will continue to evaluate all performance target and with stakeholder input, may consider making readjustments.

IV. Committee Reports

Data Committee, Kathy Fortner

HIGHLIGHTS:

- The meeting was cancelled.

Funding Committee, Steve Finch

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Funding Committee met on January 13th.
- The Committee has questions about maintenance of effort and “proviso” definitions as they pertain to NDC funds.
- A sub-committee will review co-pay issues. Want to ensure policies are statewide, not interpretations. The members of the sub-committee are: Denise Rothleutner, Dennis Mathews, Ulrike Kaufmann, Jan Wrathall, Robin Forbes, Jackie McPhee, and Judi Moore. Steve will facilitate and Karen will staff.

Personnel and Training Committee, Kris Slentz

HIGHLIGHTS:

- The meeting was cancelled.

Services Committee, Dani Wykes/Diane Patterson

HIGHLIGHTS:

- The meeting was cancelled.

Family Leadership and Involvement Committee (FLIC), Rene' Denman

HIGHLIGHTS:

- FLIC members participated in Year One Family Resources Coordinator Training
 - The Committee continues to recommend a parent participation piece for the training of FRCs.
- FLIC has completed the PAVE/ITEIP Training PowerPoint presentation on Birth to Three, IFSPs, etc.
 - These will be mailed in February for broad use.
 - The curriculum is targeted for family training.
- The committee reported on anecdotal feedback regarding the joint letter sent out to encourage parent support referrals.
- In April 2009, FLIC will begin work on a Transition PowerPoint training tool.

Note: The Council requested to see the Training PowerPoint at the April meeting.

IV. Committee Reports

Continued

Public Policy Committee, Cecile Lindquist

HIGHLIGHTS:

Discussion on ITEIP Legislative Proviso Report

- Recommendation 1:
 - Add sufficient DSHS funding to provide early intervention in every county at a \$2,600 rate per child.
 - DSHS recommended \$7M for the 2009-2011 biennium to keep up with growth. The Governor's budget did NOT include the \$7M.
 - Discussions are now being held to shift adults with DD to the ½ State and ½ Federal waiver (saving about \$9M). These dollars could then be shifted to ITEIP.
 - The WEECARE Coalition will be working on the Infant Toddler Equity Act to require DSHS/DDD to provide funds for all children in ITEIP. The rate is \$2,600 per child. Prime sponsor is Representative Mary Lou Dickerson.
- Recommendation 2:
 - Ensure a consistent and equitable method regarding school district indirect costs
- Recommendation 3 and 4:
 - Review public health, private insurance and neurodevelopment law and Medicaid to ensure consistent implementation.
- Recommendation 5:
 - Advocate at federal level for Part C funds.
- Caseload Forecasting Council voted to add ITEIP to the list of forecasted programs in 2008.
 - From 2002/03 to 2007/08 ITEIP had a 33.6% growth
 - Growth in program and shortage of funds cause:
 - Delays in evaluating children
 - Delays in IFSP development
 - IFSPs not complete

V. ITEIP Update

Sandy Morris gave a report to the Council regarding ITEIP activities.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Proposed Part C regulations have been withdrawn for further review by the new Federal administration.
- Additional Part C funding has been proposed by the new administration
- ITEIP is now part of the Washington State Forecast Council. The first meeting will be in February.
 - Thanks go to Representative Mary Lou Dickerson and Cecil Lindquist for moving this forward.
- ITEIP will continue quarterly LLA meetings
- ITEIP has a new early intervention training contract with Kelli Horn. Kris Slentz will be implementing.
 - Provide a mechanism for technical assistance and guidance

V. ITEIP Update

Continued

- Help to create/provide basic training materials for statewide use
- Training will provide the targeted technical assistance to Local Lead Agency's when compliance has not been achieved.
- Clock hours may be available
- ITEIP did not receive the supplemental funding it requested
- Wayne Vrona is new member of ITEIP staff. He fills one of the vacant Social and Health Program Consultant 2 positions.
- Karen Walker, Assistant Program Director, has been named Acting Director. Richard Sanders will fill in as Acting Assistant Program Director.

VI. Roundtable Discussion

All

Steve asked Council members to give a brief report on happenings with their programs/agencies.

- Alan Garrels, Washington State Services for the Blind
 - Have had no loss of funds yet, however, will need to restructure
- Dennis Mathews, Service Provider Education
 - Stimulus Package may provide additional funding for Part B special education
 - School districts may expect some reduction from legislative impacts
- Dawn Williams, Head Start Agency
 - The Head Start performance standards are now on hold, pending review by the new administration
 - Early Head Start may be receiving additional funds with the Stimulus Package
- Sheila Ammons, State Education Agency
 - OSPI has a new Superintendent, Randy Dorn
 - Expansion of early learning opportunities is one of the new superintendents priorities
 - Group discussion: Where is the best place for ITEIP? DSHS? DEL? OSPI?
 - Must maintain the in-kinds that DSHS provides, i.e. computer support
- Marijean Holland, State Office of Insurance Commissioner
 - The Stimulus Package includes a provision that the government will pay 65% of COBRA premiums
 - The Insurance Commissioner's office is not in the General Administration budget – no cuts at this time
 - Proposed legislation may change the definition of “medical necessity” – will be challenged by insurances
 - Have had numerous legislative contacts this legislative session – positive interest
- Sharon Reddick, State Medicaid Agency
 - Large impact on contracts with HRSA
 - Large number of FTE reductions in HRSA and DASA
- Kris Slentz, Higher Education
 - May lose a number of staff, fewer tenured professors
 - Specialty programs in danger of losing funding
- Lisa LaRue, State Child Care Agency
 - Karen Tvedt has been appointed Interim Director

- DEL's budget has been reduced by \$4M
- Budget reductions will affect the QRIS and smaller programs

VII. DDD Update

Linda Rolfe presented several handouts to the Council on DDD budgets and the Children's Intensive In-home Behavioral Supports Waiver.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- DDD has made some required budget reductions.
- The Governor's budget proposes the closure of Yakima Valley School Rehabilitation Center by June 2011.
 - Changes to other institutions will also be made
- The Federal Stimulus Package is expected to increase the state's Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage (FMAP)
- Children's Intensive In-home Behavioral Supports (CIIBS) – New Home and Community Waiver
 - Designed to support children at high risk of out-of-home placement due to challenging behavior to live successfully at home with their families

VIII. ITEIP Program Director Retires

Sandy Loerch Morris is retiring from ITEIP after 25 years of service. Linda Rolfe presented Sandy with a letter from DSHS Secretary, Robin Arnold-Williams congratulating for her many years of service. Sandy also received a certificate and plaque from the State Interagency Coordinating Council for her many years of dedicated service to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

A Family Celebration of Twenty Years was shown by members of the Family Leadership and Involvement Committee.

A PowerPoint presentation was given by Richard Sanders about Sandy's many years of service. Members and guests in attendance were also given the opportunity to share their memories of working with Sandy over the years. Sandy expressed her gratitude to the SICC.

Meeting adjourned.

Next SICC Meeting Date:

Thursday, April 22, 2009

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. with a working lunch

Highline School District Office

Board Room

15675 Ambaum Blvd., SW, Burien, WA

206-433-0111

Chairs Meeting to follow at end of SICC